

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
MIDDLE DISTRICT OF FLORIDA  
ORLANDO DIVISION

COPY

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

CRIMINAL COMPLAINT

vs.

CASE NUMBER: 6:12-mj-

GLENN STEPHEN HANSEN


I, the undersigned complainant, being duly sworn, state the following is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. On or about March 23, 2012, in Osceola County, in the Middle District of Florida, the defendant did,

Knowingly Aim the Beam of a Laser Pointer at an Aircraft in the Special Aircraft Jurisdiction of the United States

in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 39A. I further state that I am a Federal Bureau of Investigation Task Force Officer and Federal Air Marshal, and that this Complaint is based on the following facts:

SEE ATTACHED AFFIDAVIT

Continued on the attached sheet and made a part hereof: ☒ Yes ☐ No

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Complainant  
Cheyenne Sykes,  
Task Force Officer  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

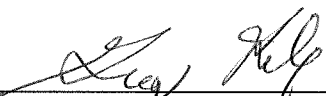
Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence,

March 24, 2012

at

Orlando, Florida

The Honorable Gregory J. Kelly  
United States Magistrate Judge  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Name & Title of Judicial Officer

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Judicial Officer

STATE OF FLORIDA

Case No. 6:12-mj-

COUNTY OF ORANGE

**Affidavit In Support of the Issuance of a  
Criminal Complaint**

I, Cheyenne C. Sykes, being duly sworn, state as follows:

1) I am a Federal Air Marshal of the United States Federal Air Marshal Service and have been so for approximately 10 years. I am currently assigned to the Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTF) in Orlando, and have been so assigned for the past six months. As a Federal Air Marshal, I am authorized to conduct investigations; request and receive information relating to offenses; seek and execute search and arrest warrants; serve subpoenas and summons; administer oaths; make arrests without warrant; carry firearms; inspect and copy records and papers of carriers and persons; and seize evidence. As part of my duties I am charged with investigating violations of laws of the United States including crimes against transportation systems and interference with flight crews.

2) For purposes of this affidavit, I incorporate, as if fully set forth herein, the affidavit that I executed earlier today in connection with an application for a search warrant of 4925 Parkview Drive, St. Cloud, Florida 34771. The statements made in that affidavit were true and correct when I executed the affidavit and I reaffirm as true those statements for purposes of this affidavit. A true and correct copy of that affidavit is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

3) The information in this affidavit is based on my personal knowledge, information obtained from other law enforcement personnel, and information gathered from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Air Traffic Control. The information set

forth herein is provided solely for the purpose of establishing probable cause in support of the requested criminal complaint. Because this affidavit is submitted for the limited purpose of establishing such probable cause, it does not include all of the details of this investigation of which I am aware.

4) On March 24, 2012, at approximately 3:59 a.m., a search warrant was executed at 4925 Parkview Drive, St. Cloud, Florida, 34771. GLENN STEPHEN HANSEN (HANSEN) was present at the location. During the execution of the search warrant, FBI Special Agent Todd Renner advised HANSEN of his Miranda rights and provided him a written copy of his rights. HANSEN initialed each line regarding his Miranda warnings and signed the form, which indicated that he wished to voluntarily speak with agents. HANSEN stated that the laser was located in the master bathroom drawer. The laser was recovered in the bathroom soon thereafter.

5) HANSEN confirmed for agents that he had, in fact, pointed the laser at airplanes as a "stress relief". HANSEN stated that the noise from the airplanes overhead caused him "noise anxiety." HANSEN expressed that he believed that the airplanes leaving Orlando International Airport purposefully flew lower over his house in response to his noise complaints. HANSEN stated that he had no idea that the laser affected the pilots and placed the passengers on that plane and others at risk. HANSEN stated that he knew that shining the laser at the airplane was wrong.

6) Based upon the foregoing, FBI agents arrested HANSEN for violating Title 18, United States Code, Section 39A, specifically that HANSEN knowingly aimed the beam of a laser pointer at an aircraft in the special aircraft jurisdiction of the United States in violation of Title 18 of the United States Code, Section 39A.

This concludes my affidavit.

  
Federal Air Marshal Cheyenne C. Sykes

Sworn and subscribed before me  
this 17<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2012.

  
HONORABLE GREGORY J. KELLY  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

## EXHIBIT A

STATE OF FLORIDA

Case No. 6:12-mj-

COUNTY OF ORANGE

**Affidavit In Support of the Issuance of a  
Search Warrant**

I, Cheyenne C. Sykes, being duly sworn, state as follows:

**Introduction**

1) I am a Federal Air Marshal of the United States Federal Air Marshal Service and have been so for approximately 10 years. I am currently assigned to the Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTF) in Orlando, and have been so assigned for the past six months. As a Federal Air Marshal, I am authorized to conduct investigations; request and receive information relating to offenses; seek and execute search and arrest warrants; serve subpoenas and summons; administer oaths; make arrests without warrant; carry firearms; inspect and copy records and papers of carriers and persons; and seize evidence. As part of my duties I am charged with investigating violations of laws of the United States including crimes against transportation systems and interference with flight crews.

2) As part of my duties, I have read materials regarding the unauthorized laser illumination of aircraft. I know it is dangerous to point a laser at an aircraft because it can cause temporary blindness and/or permanent eye damage to people aboard, including the person flying the airplane.

3) I am aware that it is mandated by the Food and Drug Administration, the Federal Agency that regulates the sale and distribution of laser devices, that these devices are required to have a warning label attached to the device and to include

instructions at the time of sale, to avoid exposing lasers to eyes, and that the laser could cause serious injury to the eye.

4) The information in this affidavit is based on my personal knowledge, information obtained from other law enforcement personnel, and information gathered from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Air Traffic Control. The information set forth herein is provided solely for the purpose of establishing probable cause in support of the requested search warrant. Because this affidavit is submitted for the limited purpose of establishing such probable cause, it does not include all of the details of this investigation of which I am aware.

#### **Search Warrant Requested**

5) This affidavit is made in support of a warrant to search a residence at **4925 Parkview Drive, St. Cloud, Florida, 34771**, more specifically described in attachment A, which is incorporated herein by reference, for evidence, fruits, and instrumentalities of violations of Title 18, United States Code, Section 39A<sup>1</sup> (aiming a laser pointer at an aircraft) which evidence, fruits, and instrumentalities are described more specifically in Attachment B, which is incorporated herein by reference.

6) This investigation started on January 8, 2012, in response to a complaint lodged by Captain Jerry Egel of AirTran Airways. Captain Egel was on duty as the pilot

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<sup>1</sup> On February 14, 2012, President Barack Obama signed the FAA Modernization and Reform Act of 2012, which added a new provision, Title 18, United States Code, Section 39A. This new criminal offense prohibited aiming the beam of a laser pointer at an aircraft in the special aircraft jurisdiction of the United States, or at the flight path of such an aircraft.

in command of AirTran Flight 15. AirTran Flight 15 departed the Orlando International Airport (OIA) from runway 17 R heading southward. Captain Egel stated that the plane was approximately 400 feet off the ground when he was struck in the face by a bright green laser. The laser tracked him for between 30 to 60 seconds until he reached approximately 2000 feet off the ground. As a result, Captain Egel took two evasive maneuvers which included turning all the lights off of the plane and making a sharp left turn. Captain Egel asked for a change in course in order to avoid the laser. Captain Egel stated he was concerned he could lose vision on the plane. Captain Egel explained that the act of shining a laser at the window of the pilot placed the plane in danger as this is a critical time for the plane. Captain Egel explained the ascension of the plane is delicate process and by blinding the pilot, this distracted him from performing critical flight duties, thereby placing the passengers at great risk.

7) The investigation focused upon the area directly south of OIA. I contacted the Federal Aviation Administration and received information that Glenn Steven Hansen has made over 500 complaints regarding aviation noise from OIA. Further, Glenn Steven Hansen stated during a noise abatement meeting that he had used a golf range finder to determine the height of the planes.

8) Based upon the investigation, through car registration and physical surveillance, I believe Glenn Steven Hansen lives at **4925 Parkview Drive, St. Cloud, Florida, 34771**. From the 500 complaints given by Glenn Steven Hansen, many of them are signed by Glenn Steven Hansen through his e-mail account. In such signatures, Glenn Steven Hansen lists **4925 Parkview Drive, St. Cloud, Florida,**



**34771** as his address. Further, based upon the accuracy of the laser pointer at the airplanes leaving OIA, and the fact that Glenn Steven Hansen is a computer software engineer, I believe that Glenn Steven Hansen is tracking flight paths on public websites that track air traffic. Therefore, I have reason to believe that Glenn Steven Hansen uses his computer to aid in the criminal activity being conducted from **4925 Parkview Drive, St. Cloud, Florida, 34771**.

9) The investigation continued as twenty-three complaints of a green laser penetrating the cockpit while leaving southward from OIA. On March 23, 2012, law enforcement conducted surveillance in the vicinity of the **4925 Parkview Drive, St. Cloud, Florida, 34771**. Law enforcement saw a green laser come from the western corner of the rear upstairs window of **4925 Parkview Drive, St. Cloud, Florida, 34771** and shine towards the airplane taking off overhead. On March 23, 2012, at 9:09 p.m., pilots from a JetBlue flight and AirTran flight reported a laser that distracted them during takeoff.

10) On March 23, 2012, I spoke with Captain Douglas John Wysocki, a pilot aboard AirTran Flight 15 that had departed from OIA en route to San Juan. Captain Wysocki stated that when he reached 3500 feet and green laser light struck and illuminated the cockpit. Captain Wysocki stated that the laser did not strike him in the eyes and therefore he could continue his ascension with the plane.

### Conclusion

11) Through my experience and training, my knowledge of this investigation, and information provided to me by other law enforcement personnel, I believe that evidence, fruits, and instrumentalities of criminal violations of Title 18, United States Code, Section 39A will be found at **4925 Parkview Drive, St. Cloud, Florida, 34771.**

12) WHEREFORE, I believe that the items listed in Attachment B are located at **4925 Parkview Drive, St. Cloud, Florida, 34771**, more specifically described in Attachment A, and respectfully request that a search warrant be issued commanding myself or any other duly authorized law enforcement official to search this location and vehicle and to seize such items as evidence and analyze them at another location, as they are evidence, fruits, and instrumentalities of criminal violations of Title 18, United States Code, Section 39A.

This concludes my affidavit.

Sworn and subscribed before me  
this \_\_\_\_ the day of March, 2012.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Federal Air Marshal Cheyenne C. Sykes

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HONORABLE GREGORY J. KELLY  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE